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**Name of Organization:** Erie County Department of Environment and Planning

**Type of Organization:** County

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**Project Title:** Marina Pollution Prevention Initiative

**Project Category:** Pollution Prevention and Reduction - BNS

**Rank by Organization (if applicable):** 0

**Total Funding Requested (\$):** 64,440 **Project Duration:** 2 Years

**Abstract:**

Erie County includes, as one of its greatest assets, its accessibility to Great Lakes waters for recreational purposes. Regional water quality has improved substantially as a direct result of numerous regulatory initiatives dating back to the start of the environmental movement. Subsequently, the use of Lake Erie, the Niagara River and its tributaries for recreational purposes has increased tremendously in recent years. In parallel, there has been a corresponding growth in the marine industry associated with service to the boating public.

This program will focus on preventing pollution into waters of Lake Erie, the Niagara River and its tributaries originating from marinas, boat repair yards and the boating public. All boating facilities which have the potential for impacting these waters will be included in this program. Facility managers and boat owners will be encouraged to adapt sound pollution prevention practices through outreach efforts and education, distribution of printed materials and spill containment and recovery materials. Facility managers will be provided with information and assistance with proper management and disposal options for hazardous waste. Outreach efforts to marine service providers and recreational boaters will seek to impart a sense of their importance as stakeholders to the protect gains with respect to water quality in the Great Lakes.

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**Geographic Areas Affected by the Project**

**States:**

<input type="checkbox"/> Illinois	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	New York
<input type="checkbox"/> Indiana	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pennsylvania
<input type="checkbox"/> Michigan	<input type="checkbox"/>	Wisconsin
<input type="checkbox"/> Minnesota	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ohio

**Lakes:**

<input type="checkbox"/> Superior	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Erie
<input type="checkbox"/> Huron	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ontario
<input type="checkbox"/> Michigan	<input type="checkbox"/>	All Lakes

**Geographic Initiatives:**

<input type="checkbox"/> Greater Chicago	<input type="checkbox"/> NE Ohio	<input type="checkbox"/> NW Indiana	<input type="checkbox"/> SE Michigan	<input type="checkbox"/> Lake St. Clair
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**Primary Affected Area of Concern:** Niagara River, NY

**Other Affected Areas of Concern:**

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***For Habitat Projects Only:***

**Primary Affected Biodiversity Investment Area:**

**Other Affected Biodiversity Investment Areas:**

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**Problem Statement:**

The Niagara Frontier Region is totally dependent on eastern Lake Erie and the Niagara River as a source of potable water for municipalities and industry. The Niagara River is essential to migratory birds and is important for fish propagation including a sub-species of muskallunge found nowhere else. Recreational use of these waters have increased significantly in recent years. Area waterways have been subject to the negative impacts associated with the increased recreational use, particularly as a result of recreational boating and the boating service industry.

The growth of boating in this region has resulted in the expansion of existing marinas and development of new facilities to meet demand. Activities associated with boating and marinas have been recognized as contributors to loss of water quality in urban shorelines. Boat repair and maintenance yards are potential sources of uncontrolled discharges of paint waste, including highly toxic bottom paint, solvents and antifreeze into storm sewers. Marinas which have inadequate manned pump-out facilities are possible sources for pollution from boat holding tanks. Marinas are typical small business entities which can benefit greatly from assistance in management of hazardous waste. In addition there exists a need to review current on-site oil spill response equipment, procedures and staff training.

**Proposed Work Outcome:**

This program will seek to implement and reinforce pollution prevention practices for marinas, boat maintenance yards and water recreational facilities along the Lake Erie and Niagara River shorelines within Erie County. The goal will be the reduction or elimination of sources of uncontrolled discharges of chemical and septic pollutants associated with boat operation and maintenance. County staff will meet and provide assistance to operators of recreational marine service facilities, boat associations and private clubs to assess and enhance pollution prevention strategies. Individual boat owners will be advised of the importance of water protection and pollution prevention through educational outreach and the distribution of brochures developed as part of this program. Equipment and materials for control of discharges, such as sorbent pads, will be distributed to private boat owners to demonstrate the importance and practicability of individual efforts toward pollution control. A minimum of 25 boating and boat maintenance facilities will be included in this effort.

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**Project Milestones:****Dates:**

Project Start	10/2000
Facility Identification	11/2000
Brochure Completion	01/2001
Facility Assistance Meetings	02/2001
Association Presentations	03/2001
Program Reassessment	09/2001
Outreach Followup	01/2002
Project End	10/2002

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☐ Project Addresses Environmental Justice

**If So, Description of How:**

☒ Project Addresses Education/Outreach

**If So, Description of How:**

This project will rely heavily on education and outreach efforts. County staff will provide marine facility managers, employees and private boat owners presentations on pollution prevention measures and the importance of maintaining water quality. Educational material on proper boat maintenance and spill prevention will be generated and distributed at trade shows, club meetings, slip owner functions and through mass mailings.

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**Project Budget:**

	<b>Federal Share Requested (\$)</b>	<b>Applicant's Share (\$)</b>
<b>Personnel:</b>	48,000	16,000
<b>Fringe:</b>	13,440	4,480
<b>Travel:</b>	500	0
<b>Equipment:</b>	1,000	0
<b>Supplies:</b>	500	0
<b>Contracts:</b>	500	0
<b>Construction:</b>	0	0
<b>Other:</b>	500	0
<b>Total Direct Costs:</b>	64,440	20,480
<b>Indirect Costs:</b>	0	3,750
<b>Total:</b>	64,440	24,230
<b>Projected Income:</b>	0	0

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**Funding by Other Organizations (Names, Amounts, Description of Commitments):**

The applicant's share of funding for this project will be in the form of in-kind contributions of Erie County Department of Environment and Planning (DEP) staff time, benefits and indirect costs

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**Description of Collaboration/Community Based Support:**

Erie County will work in conjunction with other stakeholders and water resource and boating regulatory agencies such as the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, the US Army Corps of Engineers, and the US Coast Guard to implement educational efforts for pollution and spill prevention. Other outreach resources include the many active local boating and fishing associations such as the Niagara River Anglers Association, New York Sportsman Association and the NY and Southtowns Walleye Associations.